

So at this hearing, we discussed how our communities can and should work with our schools. We heard from parents, teachers, students and members of the community on how to do that.

After the conclusion of the formal field hearing, I was able to conduct a question and answer period for members of the community who were in attendance.

This was an opportunity to examine issues that may not have been brought up by the panelists—for example the role of fathers in children's lives. As the traditional breadwinner in the family, fathers who work all day have rarely had time in the past to take an active role in the child's education. Fathers who do take part in the educational pursuits of their children have boosted self-esteem levels that have been lacking in these children. Simple tasks such as reading with and to children and helping with homework, are two ways that involve fathers in this process. Fathers do play a crucial role in the education of their children, a point community members wanted to highlight.

The need for gun safety was also stressed. Requirements, such as a minimum age of 21 and background checks for gun purchases play a significant role in keeping our schools and children safe.

The important question of funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was also raised. While educators look to the federal government to provide 40 percent of the funding for this program, many schools receive only 11 percent of the funding needed and are forced to compensate with local resources. The need to fill in this funding gap was stressed because without sufficient funding for this program more handicapped children are at risk of incarceration and substance abuse.

Suggestions were also made on how to improve education at both the federal and local levels. Citizens expressed their wishes on several items.

Congress should receive input from private schools.

All parents of school-age children should participate in parent education programs.

Parent education programs should include material on parental involvement in the classroom.

Early childhood/preschool programs such as Head Start should be funded at higher levels.

Furthermore, another topic discussed was the re-evaluation of funds at the federal level and the reallocation of funds already distributed by the Department of Education.

As for the local level, the public raised the need for community organizations to work directly with citizens on such projects as building a new community athletic facility, as such opportunities were deemed worthy extracurricular programs for children.

I was impressed by the number of citizens who attended the hearing. The levels of community awareness and public support evident at the event were appreciated and inspiring. All in all, the day proved that it does take an entire community—parents, businesses, citizens and school personnel—to educate a child.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 1999

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 19, 1999, due to the failure of USAirways to provide scheduled airline service, I missed three rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

H.R. 1033, the Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act: "aye."

H. Con. Res. 121, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the victory of the United States in the Cold War and the fall of the Berlin Wall: "aye."

H.R. 1477, to withhold voluntary proportional assistance for programs and projects of the International Atomic Energy Agency relating to the development and completion of the Bushehr nuclear plan in Iran: "aye."

IN HONOR OF NTEU PRESIDENT ROBERT TOBIAS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 1999

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert Tobias, the dedicated president of the National Treasury Employees Union who, after 16 years of leadership, has decided to step down from his post to pursue writing and teaching the next generation about the importance of protecting the rights of workers everywhere. It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge his years of leadership and service to his fellow workers, and to his country.

Since he first joined the NTEU 31 years ago, Robert Tobias has stood up for the fundamental rights of his fellow federal employees—fair pay, health coverage, the right of employees to have a role in overseeing their agencies, and a secure transition to stable retirements. He has played a vital role in building the labor-management partnership in the federal government today. His extraordinary work and dedication in carrying out his duties has had a profound impact on the hard working men and women throughout the NTEU.

Robert Tobias' distinguished career has been a great source of pride. His dedication and determination to improve the lives of the hard working families of federal employees will be his lasting legacy. The members of the NTEU and the nation have all benefitted from his unwavering commitment. For this, I join my colleagues in offering him our gratitude.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF GEORGE BROWN

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 1999

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend and distinguished col-

league, Congressman George Brown of California's 42nd Congressional District. I worked alongside of Representative Brown for 33 years and will remember his service to Congress as one dedicated to improving the quality of life not only for his constituents but for all of us.

George Brown started off his illustrious career not as the public servant we remember him by, but as a young student in the 1930's. It was on the campus of the University of California at Los Angeles where he began his crusade for a better nation by organizing the first integrated campus housing. Being the great leader he was, George was the first to integrate UCLA's housing by taking on an African-American roommate. Later in his life Representative Brown was proud to continue his push for civil rights when he voted for the Civil Rights Act of 1964. A picture of George, President Lyndon Johnson, Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. hung on his wall as a constant reminder to the signing of that act into law.

Upon graduating from UCLA with a degree in Industrial Physics, Brown put his degree to good use with the City of Los Angeles. It was there that he helped organize the city's workers and its veteran's housing projects. Then in 1954 George Brown won his first election as a member of the city council in Monterey Park, CA. One year later in 1955 he became mayor of the same city. The dedication he held for the issues dearest to him kept Brown moving as he was elected to the California State Assembly in 1958. As a member of the state assembly Brown introduced an environmentally friendly piece of legislation that called for a ban on lead in gasoline, the first ever of its kind. What we later learned is that this was only the beginning of George's fight for a cleaner, safer environment.

In 1962 George Brown ran for the 29th district in California. He won the House seat easily that year beating his opponent by an 11 percentage point margin. Serving on the House Committee on Science and Aeronautics, Brown was a staunch supporter of the advancement of the space program and the pursuit of technology that would improve all of our lives. George believed that technology should be included in the education of our children and worked hard to accomplish this goal throughout his career. In more recent years Congressman Brown was found supporting international scientific cooperation and attempting to establish joint research programs between the United States, Russia and Mexico.

During the 1960's and into the 1970's, Congressman Brown was a strong voice in protest to the Vietnam War. He argued that the no matter how long we fought and how many troops we sent over to Vietnam, we could not find world peace from a war that was slaughtering peasants. Throughout the war, he tried time and again to get the attention of the nation. One such time found Representative Brown outside on the steps of the Capitol Building demanding that if the police were going to arrest 13 peaceful war protesters for disturbing the peace, then they should arrest him too.

When I think back to this time I'm reminded of the group that Bob Kastenmeier from Wisconsin, Don Edwards from California, George,

myself and several others formed to stop the war effort. After the release of the Pentagon Papers our efforts in the group intensified to bring an end to the war, perhaps the hardest worker of all of us being George.

As hard as he fought the Vietnam War, perhaps the issue closest to the Honorable Congressman's heart was the environment. It was Representative Brown who first spoke out against the dangers of burning fossil fuel. It was George Brown teaching the nation about the harmful effects of freon in the ozone layer. It was Brown again telling us that we had better keep an eye on the global climate change for our sake and the sake of our children. And then it was Congress, following his lead, enacting provisions in the Clean Air Act that would help the nation monitor the levels of these pollutants in our air and keep a watchful eye on the ever-changing world climate. One of Representative Brown's most notable achievements was the work he put into the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency. Through this agency we can rest assured, knowing the policies of the fine Congressman from California will be followed through as he would want them.

In looking back at George Brown's life, we look back at a life dedicated to promoting the beliefs of a man that was committed to making the world a better, cleaner, more peaceful place for us to live. His hard work on the tough issues will be missed, but most of all we will simply miss the strong-willed, intelligent, caring man that George Brown was.

**CELEBRATING THE REMARKABLE
ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN IN
SPORTS AND THE SUCCESS OF
TITLE XI**

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the success of title IX—especially for its enormous contributions to the development of women sports. I commend the women's caucus and my colleagues, Congresswoman JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD and Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY, for scheduling this special order on the remarkable achievements of women in sports and the impact of title IX. I also want to recognize our colleague Congresswoman PATSY MINK and former Congresswoman Edith Green who authored and initiated title IX.

Title IX states,

No person in the U.S. shall, on the basis of sex be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal aid.

Before title IX, many schools saw no problem in refusing to admit women or in applying more stringent admissions criteria to women.

Title IX has made an enormous contribution to improving the status of women. When title IX was passed in 1972, women received 9 percent of medical degrees; now, women receive 38 percent of medical degrees. Today,

women earn 43 percent of all law degrees, compared to 7 percent in 1972; today, 44 percent of all doctoral degrees are awarded to women compared to 25 percent in 1977.

In 1900, women competed in the Olympics for the first time, but only in the "genteel" sports of tennis and golf. The passage of title IX set off a period of rapid growth in women's sports. Today, women compete in track and field, basketball, soccer, lacrosse, gymnastics, skating, golf, and softball, just to name a few sports.

Women have significantly increased their participation in collegiate sports and, today, we even have women in professional sports leagues such as the WNBA.

This year, the United States hosted the third Women's World Cup, one of the biggest women's sporting events to date. Over 90,000 people packed the Rose Bowl to watch the U.S. Women's Soccer Team win the gold. The U.S. Women's Soccer Team has taught us all that anything is possible if you dare to dream; that by raising the bar of expectations, there can be no limits; that if you are allowed to fully realize your potential, you can achieve. Thousands of young women throughout the country surely have formed new dreams and goals as they watched our women's soccer team compete for the gold. We can thank title IX for these new dreams and goals.

I am a former athlete. I ran track and played basketball in college. I earned a bachelor of arts degree in biology and physical education from Florida A&M University, and a master's degree in public health and physical education from the University of Michigan. I coached women's basketball at Bethune-Cookman College and taught biological sciences and physical education. I know about women in sports. I congratulate all the women who are participating in sports, especially the 1999 U.S. Women's Soccer Team.

I am proud to be a woman. I am also proud that Congress passed title IX and expanded opportunities for women to participate and achieve in sports, and attend our academic institutions.

We need to protect and enhance title IX's achievements. If we do so, the future for women will be boundless.

MR. GRANT HOUSTON DESIGNATED AS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR FOR 1999

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take a moment to honor Mr. Grant Houston. Mr. Houston is a man of outstanding leadership ability and an active member of the Lake City, CO, community. For his efforts, hard work, and dedication to the citizens of Lake City, I commend Mr. Houston for receiving designation as "Citizen of the Year" for 1999, and thank him for the example he has set.

Born in Gunnison in 1955, Mr. Houston moved as an infant to Lake City where he continues to reside. He is an accomplished

writer and historian. Using his talents and passions for history and writing, he helped to found the historical society in 1973, and was the founder and editor of the Silver World Newspaper. Currently, he serves the historical society as president of the foundation.

Mr. Houston has collected and shared a great legacy of local history by combining his love of history with his love of writing. He was first published at the age of 21 with a brief history of Lake City, called Lake City Reflections. He went on to serve as editor of the Western State College newspaper, and to write Reflections. Mr. Houston's local publications include various maps, guide books and histories.

Not only has he served his community by recording history and keeping them informed through the establishment of a newspaper, he was also appointed to two significant boards by former Colorado Governor Roy Romer, one of them being the Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission. Mr. Grant Houston has worked as a member of the Review Board for the National Register of Historic Places.

Mr. Grant Houston has dedicated much time and energy to preserving history and keeping the citizens of his community informed. For his efforts and leadership, I now wish to pay tribute to this remarkable man and to thank him for giving so much to the people of Lake City and citizens of Colorado.

TRIBUTE TO ALAN GERRY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Alan Gerry of Denver, CO, for his outstanding service and hard work. Because of his strong work ethic and innovative ideas in the cable industry, I wish to honor Mr. Gerry.

As founder, chairman and CEO of Cablevision Industries Corporation, Mr. Gerry led the corporation to become the eighth largest multiple system operator in the United States before merging with Time Warner in 1996. Alan Gerry is a member of the Board of C-SPAN, the industry public affairs programming network, and is a founding member of the Board of the Cable Alliance for Education and was the president of the New York State Cable Television Association.

Currently, Mr. Alan Gerry serves as chairman and CEO of Granite Associates LP. He also dedicates time to serving as the campaign chairperson and member of the Board of Directors for the National Cable Television Center and Museum. Mr. Gerry is a pioneer in the cable industry, and his entrepreneurial spirit and vision have helped him achieve great success.

Over the years, he has been recognized for his leadership and dedication in a number of different capacities. In 1987, he received the Americanism Award from the Anti-Defamation League and in 1989 he was honored by the Boy Scouts of America with the Distinguished Citizen Award. Presented with the Entrepreneur-of-the-Year Award in 1992 for the